during the last three years are given below :—

Year	Production (M. kg.)	Quantity purchased (packed wt. in M. kg.)
1991-92	159.19	14.069
1992-93	158.86	21.125
1993-94	127.93 (Estimated)	30.304 (Provisional)

(d) Yes, Sir. For the 1993-94 FCV crop in A.P. farmers were advised to switchover to alternative crops.

(f) Unmanufactured tobacco exports in 1992-93 and 1993-94 are given below :—

Year	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. crores)
1992-93	81,294	434.41
1993-94 (Prov.)	88,818	393.98

For 1993-94 Tobacco Board had fixed a reduced FCV tobacco crop size for Andhra Pradesh.

(g) No, Sir.

Australian Delegation for Promoting Trade and Economic Cooperation

4301. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dy. Prime Minister of Australia along with a delegation visited India recently to promote trade and economic cooperation with India;

(b) if so, whether Government have signed any trade agreement with the Australian delegation;

(c) if so, the details of the agreement and terms and conditions settled with each other; and

(d) the extent to which India is likely to be benefitted by the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir. However, Deputy Premier of Western Australia had visited India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

Export of Cigarettes from Andhra Pradesh

4302. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tobacco Board has given any suggestions for increasing exports of cigarettes and other value added tobacco items from Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) expectations in this regard in 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Measures taken to boost export cigarettes and other tobacco products include :—

1. Undertaking trade promotion measures such as aggressive publicity in overseas markets, participation in fairs and exhibitions abroad, trade delegation to importing countries etc.
2. Promoting export oriented units for export of cigarettes.
3. Permitting foreign investment in cigarette industry mainly for export of cigarettes.
4. Encouraging manufacturers to establish warehouses in CIS countries for stock and sale of cigarettes.
5. Permitting cigarette manufacturers to import various items with a view to enable them to undertake product development.

(c) No item-wise target has been fixed.

Energy saving Tobacco curing Barns in Andhra Pradesh

4303. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tobacco Board has made any efforts to make all

tobacco curing barns in Andhra Pradesh energy savings;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Tobacco Board is implementing a scheme for making Flue Cured Virginia tobacco curing barns energy efficient by roof insulation of barns in a phased manner. During 1993-94 season in A.P. 228 barns were insulated for which a total subsidy of Rs. 2,50,800/- was provided.

(c) Does not arise.

Action Contemplated against TTCI Officers

4304. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the action that is being contemplated against the officers of the Tea Trading Corporation of India who are responsible for the irregularities pointed out in para 1.53 of the Third Report of the Committees on Public Undertakings 1991-92; and

(b) whether the financial responsibility has been fixed on such officers and if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Responsibility for the losses to the Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. in setting up of joint venture company in Singapore during 1981-82, referred to in para 1.53 of the Third Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the year 1991-92, was fixed on the then Chief Executive of the Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd., who has since resigned.

Pepper Export

4305. SHRI V. GOPOLASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pepper that has been exported to various countries since 1990; year-wise and country-wise figures;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned through exports during this period; year-wise figures;

(c) when was International Pepper Community Organisation established and the details about the organisation and its membership;

(d) how any meetings of this organisation in the past did take place and the decisions taken in each meeting;

(e) when did the last meeting take place and also the decision taken thereof;

(f) when is the next meeting scheduled to take place; and

(g) what steps are being taken to boost pepper export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Statement is enclosed at Annexure [*See* Appendix 170, Annexure No. 81].

(b) The foreign exchange equivalent to the following value was earned as export realisation:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Value
1990 . . .	118.97
1991 . . .	70.72
1992 . . .	62.65
1993 . . .	178.63

(Figures Provisional)

(c) International Pepper Community was established in March, 1972 with the major pepper producing countries viz. India, Indonesia and Malaysia as its Members. Later in 1981, Brazil also joined as a Member. The main objective of the community is to promote, co-ordinate and harmonise all activities relating to pepper economy in the member countries. IPC is functioning with its Secretariat at Jakarta, Indonesia. Funding of IPC is from the contributions from its member countries. In 1992, Sri Lanka and Micronesia become the Associate Member of IPC and in 1993, Thailand became a Member.

(d) 21 Sessions of International Pepper Community have been held so far. Since the establishment of IPC in 1972, the